General Assembly

Distr.: General
8 May 2002

Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 18

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/56/894)*]

56/282. Question of East Timor

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, as well as resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and all other United Nations resolutions relating to the question of East Timor,

Recalling also the mandate of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling further the Agreement of 5 May 1999 between the Governments of Indonesia and Portugal and the Secretary-General on the question of East Timor regarding the modalities for the popular consultation of the East Timorese through a direct ballot,[1] and taking note of its outcome and the process of transition, under the authority of the United Nations, towards independence,

Taking note of the subsequent recommendation by the East Timor Constituent Assembly that 20 May 2002 be the date for the official transfer of the powers of sovereignty from the United Nations to the East Timor government institutions,

Mindful of the statement by the President of the Security Council of 31 October 2001,[2]

1. *Recalls* the important role played for many years by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in promoting the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in relation to East Timor;

2. *Welcomes* the progress and the achievements in East Timor, and commends the Secretary-General and the United Nations Transitional

[1] A/53/951-S/1999/513, annex II.
[2] S/PRST/2001/32.

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Administration in East Timor, under the leadership of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, for their efforts to assist the Territory during its transition to independence;

3. *Also welcomes* the forthcoming official transfer of power from the United Nations to the East Timor government institutions, as recommended by the East Timor Constituent Assembly;

4. *Decides* to remove East Timor from the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories upon its accession to independence.

98th plenary meeting
1 May 2002